

RUSSIAN FORT

On Hawaii 50, just southwest of the bridge over the Waimea River, Kauai

Begun sometime in 1817, this large stone structure, in the form of an irregular octagon, is the most impressive reminder of the short-lived attempt by the Russian-American Company to gain a position of influence in the Hawaiian Islands. Evidently, the fort was incomplete when its commander's conduct alienated the Hawaiians, causing King Kamehameha to expel the Russians. Hawaiian troops later occupied the fort, which is now a state monument and park.